

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SALT T 00256 301115Z

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: ARTICLE VII OF R.D.T. (SALT TWO-700)

REF: STATE 170798

1. DELEGATION REQUESTS WASHINGTON GUIANC ON HOW TO PROCEED WITH RESPECT TO ARTICLE VII OF THE JDT. IN VIEW OF THE REFERENC TO ARTICLE VII IN TH FIRST SENTENCE OF PARAGRAPH 6 OF REFTTEL, DISCUSSION OF THIS ARTICLE HAS BEEN SUSPENDED PENDING INSTRUCTIONS. IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO RESUME DISCUSSION OF THIS ARTICLE AT AN EARLY DATE.

2. DELEGATION RECOMMENDS THAT DISCUSSION ON ARTICLE VII PROCEED ON THE BASIS THAT THE UNBRACKETED LANGUAGE IN THE JDT IS ACCEPTABLE TO THE USG. THE ONLY EXCEPTION TO THE FOREGOING WOULD BE THAT THE LAST TWO UNBRACKETED WORDS IN PARAGRAPH 1 ("AND LAUNCHERS") WOULD BE DELETED. WITH RESPECT TO BRACKETED LANGUAGE, DELEGATION SUGGESTS THE FOLLOWING:

(1) ALL REFERENCES TO SPACELAUNCHRS WOULD BE DELETED.
SPACE LAUNCHERS ARE NOT PROPERLY THE SUBJECT OF A STRATEGIC ARMS
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 SALT T 00256 301115Z

LIMITATION AGREEMENT. THEY ARE NOT ICBM AND SLBM LAUNCHERS, AND

OTHER SYSTEMS NOT COVERED BY THE AGREEMENT (E.G., MR/IRBMS) ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY EXEMPTED.

(2) DELEGATION WOULD CONTINUE TO INSIST ON INCLUSION OF THE PROHIBITION ON A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN TEST AND TRAINING LAUNCHERS FOR HEAVY ICBMS.

(3) DELEGATION WOULD PROPOSE THAT PRESENT BRACKETED SUBPARAGRAPH (C) OF PARAGRAPH 2 BE DELETED AND THE FOLLOWING NEW SUBPARAGRAPH (C) BE SUBSTITUTED THEREFOR. "OPERATIONAL ICBM AND SLBM LAUNCHERS USED FOR TESTING OR TRAINING SHALL BE CONSIDERED OPERATIONAL LAUNCHERS." UNDER THIS LANGUAGE IT WOULD BE CLEAR THAT USING ANY OPERATIONAL ICBM OR SLBM LAUNCHER FOR TESTING AND TRAINING WOULD NOT THEREBY EXEMPT ANY SUCH LAUNCHER FROM THE LIMITATIONS BY THE AGREEMENT. ALSO UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH ANY SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN TEST AND TRAINING LAUNCHERS COULD BE CHALLENGED AS BEING POSSIBLE OPERATIONAL LAUNCHERS AS WELL AS BEING IN VIOLATION OF SUBPARAGRAPH (A) OF PARAGRAPH 2 OR ARTICLE VII.

3. DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT THE FORMULATION OF THIS ARTICLE HAS NO BEARING ON THE RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE OF WHETHER THE 18 SS-9 LAUNCHERS AT TYURATAM ARE OPERATIONAL OR TEST AND TRAINING.

4. IF THE DELEGATION SUGGESTION IS APPROVED, THE US PROPOSAL FOR ARTICLE VII WOULD READ AS FOLLOWS:

"1. THE LIMITATION PROVIDED FOR IN ARTICLE III OF THIS AGREEMENT SHALL NOT APPLY TO ICBM AND SLBM TEST AND TRAINING LAUNCHERS.

2. THE PARTIES AGREE THAT:

(A) THERE SHALL BE NO SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ICBM OR SLBM TEST AND TRAINING LAUNCHERS OR IN THE NUMBER OF SUCH LAUNCHERS FOR HEAVY ICBMS.

(B) CONSTRUCTION OR CONVERSION OF ICBM LAUNCHERS AT TEST RANGES SHALL BE UNDERTAKEN ONLY FOR PURPOSES OF TESTING AND TRAINING.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 SALT T 00256 301115Z

(C) OPERATIONAL ICBM AND SLBM LAUNCHERS USED FOR TESTING OR TRAINING SHALL BE CONSIDERED OPERATIONAL LAUNCHERS."

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